

Nevada State Board of NURSING NEWSLETTER

March 2000

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Web site address—
nursingboard.state.nv.us

Who Handles Staffing Complaints?

Bureau of Licensure and Certification
enforces staffing regulations

The Board of Health has regulatory jurisdiction over the manner in which health care facilities handle nurse staffing patterns. The Board of Nursing has regulatory jurisdiction over individual nurses.

Therefore, if a complaint is filed against a nurse alleging the nurse instituted unsafe staffing patterns, the nursing board would bring the matter to the attention of the Bureau of Licensure and Certification and ask them to investigate if it violated their regulations.

If their investigation found a violation, the nursing board could then charge the nurse with unprofessional conduct under its statute NRS 632.320(7) and its regulation NAC 632.890(30)(b).

This jurisdiction-based process makes sense when you look at resources and expertise. The Bureau of Licensure and Certification is staffed to survey and respond to complaints regarding health care facilities as a whole; the Board of Nursing is staffed to respond to complaints regarding individual nurses.

Therefore, addressing complaints about facility issues is not only outside the nursing board's scope of authority, it would also require adding considerable human and financial resources. This would mean increasing the fees charged to Nevada nurses.

Who should you call?

If you have a concern about staffing patterns in your facility, call the Bureau of Licensure and Certification at 775-687-4475 (Carson City), 702-486-6515 (Las Vegas), or 775-688-2888 (Reno). The bureau's law allows you to make your complaint anonymously, if you wish.

SNAPSHOT OF NURSING IN NEVADA (taken February 29, 2000)

Active RNs 14,480

Active LPNs 2,700

Active CNAs 5,021

What is Public Information?

Any disciplinary action taken by the
Nevada nursing board is public

A private reprimand recently issued by the Board of Psychological Examiners raised concerns regarding the information state licensing boards make available to the public. Specifically, the news media and legislators said the public has a right to know if a health care provider has been disciplined.

The reprimand which is issued by the Nevada State Board of Nursing is a public one, issued under Nevada Revised Statute 632.325(1)(d). In fact, any disciplinary action taken by the nursing board against a nurse or nursing assistant, including reprimands, is public information.

Such disciplinary actions against a license or certificate include:

- ◆ Reprimand
- ◆ Fine
- ◆ Probation
- ◆ Suspension
- ◆ Revocation
- ◆ Voluntary surrender

The Nevada nursing board reports all disciplinary actions to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing national disciplinary data bank and the federal government's National Practitioner Data Bank, and/or the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank.

In addition, the Board's disciplinary actions list is sent to all health care facilities in the state, published in this quarterly newsletter, and posted on its web site.

BOARD MEMBERS AND TERM DATES

Cookie Bible, BSN, RNC, APN, President (Zephyr Cove) Oct 2000

Tana Wisniewski, RN Vice President (Las Vegas) Oct 2000

Patricia Shutt, LPN Secretary (Las Vegas) Oct 2001

Tamara Barengo Consumer Member (Reno) Oct 2001

Elena Lopez-Bowlan, MS, RN, FNP (Reno) Oct 2003

Dorothy Perkins, CNA (Las Vegas) Oct 2003

Kathleen Reynolds, RN, BHS, ABQAURP (Reno) Oct 2000

NURSING NEWSLETTER

The Nevada State Board of Nursing Newsletter publishes news and information about Board actions, regulations, and activities. Articles may be reprinted without permission; attribution is appreciated.

Kathy Apple, Executive Director
Cindy Kimball, Editor

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nsbnreno@govmail.
state.nv.us**

Complete Child Support Section

(Even if you don't have a child)

Federal law requires you to complete the child support section of the application, even if you don't have a child. Your application will be returned as incomplete unless you (1) check or answer one of the statements (2) mark only one statement and (3) sign and repeat your social security number in the child support section of the application.

Be Cautious of Educational Offers

Regents College warns students about paying for services it already provides

From time to time, the Nevada State Board of Nursing hears from licensed practical nurses regarding offers they receive from various for-profit publishers and consultants who offer assistance in earning a University of New York Regents College degree.

Regents College is one of several schools approved to conduct the clinical portion of their nursing programs in Nevada. The nursing board allows graduates who successfully complete the program to apply to take the NCLEX-RN.

The college reports that its students are sometimes approached by organizations claiming that their materials or services will provide students with special advantages in completing degree programs, which is usually not the case. In addition, the college reports that students can be charged hundreds, even thousands of dollars for the same services they can receive directly from Regents College, services that are included in the student fees.

If you are approached by an organization offering help to earn your degree, be sure to ask if it is an authorized representative of Regents College. Then call the college, toll free, at 1-888-647-2388 to verify the organization's status.

Post office will not forward your renewal

You're required by law to inform the Board, in writing, of any address change, including a zip code change. Even if you've asked the post office to forward your mail, it will not forward your renewal application. You may call the Board and request an address change form, or mail a signed letter to the Las Vegas office including your name, license or certificate type and number, former address, current address, social security number, and date of birth.

Coming Up For Renewal?

Follow these tips to avoid a license lapse

■ **Notify the Board immediately** of any address change. Your renewal application is sent to your address of record two months before your expiration date.

■ **When you receive your renewal** application, take a few moments to complete and mail it.

■ **If you have any questions** about how to fill out forms or applications, call the Las Vegas office as soon as you receive your renewal. This will give you enough time to obtain any additional documents you may need, such as continuing education certificates.

■ **Make sure you have answered** all the questions and met all the requirements. Your application will be returned to you if it is incomplete and the delay could cause your license to lapse.

Florida Fakes

Florida nurses get phony reminders to renew

According to the *Professional Licensing Report*, some 10,000 Florida nurses received fake license renewal notices sent by a Jacksonville man who asked them to send a \$45 renewal fee to a rented Tallahassee mailbox. The notices, which claimed to be from the "Board of Professional Regulations," bore the state seal and were sent to both registered and practical nurses.

If you receive a renewal notice that doesn't seem quite right to you, please call the Las Vegas office.

Walk-In Policy

Remember, it takes 10 to 14 days to process applications

Just a reminder that the Nevada State Board of Nursing does not have “walk-in processing” of applications or forms. It takes 10 to 14 days to process an application or form—longer if it is not complete or if you do not meet all requirements.

The only exception is the validation form, which you may walk in and purchase for \$25 if your license or certificate has been confirmed as active and you’re just waiting to receive your hard card in the mail.

Please call the Las Vegas office if you have any questions.

Mutual Recognition

Two more states adopt interstate compact, bringing total to eight

In February, Nebraska and South Dakota joined the ranks of those states who have passed an interstate compact enabling mutual recognition of nursing licensure. They join North Carolina, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin, Arkansas and Maryland. As of this writing, four states—Delaware, Idaho, Iowa and Mississippi—have introduced legislation.

The mutual recognition model, endorsed by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, allows nurses to have one license in their state of residency and practice in any state that has signed an interstate compact, provided the nurses follow the laws and regulations of every state in which they practice.

The Nevada State Board of Nursing has voted to support the mutual recognition model. The Board will decide at its March meeting whether or not to proceed with legislation this coming biennium.

If you have any questions regarding mutual recognition, please call the Board’s executive director, Kathy Apple.

It’s time to renew your subscription

If you have a paid subscription to this newsletter, it’s time to renew. Please send a check or money order for \$10 to the Reno office by May 5th (payable to the Nevada State Board of Nursing). You will receive four issues of the newsletter, beginning with the June 2000 issue.

Paid subscriptions are renewable annually in May. If you are an actively licensed RN or LPN, the newsletter is provided as part of your licensure fee. If you have any questions, please call Cindy Kimball in the Reno office.

Remember To Wear Your Name Tag

It’s the law—in all practice settings

If you’re a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, certified nursing assistant, nursing student, graduate nurse, or nurse certified in an advanced specialty, you must wear a name tag. The legal definition of “name” is both your first and last names. Your name must be prominently displayed on your clothing, and be clearly legible from a distance of at least three feet. For more information on identification requirements, please read the Nurse Practice Act, NAC 632.249 and 632.251.

staff nurses

charge nurses

clinical nurse specialists

clinical nurse managers

preceptors

The NCLEX® Examination Depends On You!

You may qualify to participate on an NCLEX examination item development panel. To learn more, go to the National Council’s web site at www.ncsbn.org, click *NCLEX Examination*, then *Developing the NCLEX Examination*, then *Item Development Application*. If you don’t have web access, call 312-787-6555, ext. 496 and leave a message with your name, address and phone number.



COME TALK TO THE BOARD

During each regularly scheduled meeting of the Nevada State Board of Nursing (see page 6 for dates), Board members hold Open Forum for people to talk to them on nursing-related issues.

If you want to speak during Open Forum, please call Beverly Finley in the Reno office at least two weeks before the meeting for detailed information. Open Forum time is divided equally among those who wish to speak.

WE’LL COME TALK TO YOU

Board staff will come speak to your organization on a range of nursing-related topics, including delegation, the impaired nurse, licensure and discipline processes, and the Nurse Practice Act.

Call the Reno office if you’re interested in having us come speak to your organization.

APPLICATION SCREENING QUESTIONS #1 and #2

1. Has your license, registration or certification in any state ever been denied, revoked, suspended, reprimanded, fined, surrendered, restricted, limited or placed on probation? Is there any action pending?

If the answer is yes, you must submit the following:

- detailed letter of explanation of the action, state where the action took place, and the circumstances leading to the action.

- copies of records and orders from the agency that took the action identifying the allegations, action taken and current action status.

- letter of recommendation from current/last employer.

2. Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense or had a civil judgment rendered against you?

If the answer is yes, you must submit the following:

- detailed letter of explanation including the date of offense, circumstances leading to arrest, conviction, sentence, additional convictions and current status of sentence.

- copies of court documents identifying actual conviction and sentence.

- letter from parole/probation officer regarding compliance with requirements or copy of document identifying completion of sentence.

- criminal history printout from an FBI fingerprint check.

- letter of reference from your current/last employer.

Is A Misdemeanor A Conviction?

The answers to this and other frequently asked questions

Q. Is a misdemeanor a conviction?

A. Yes. If you have ever been convicted of a misdemeanor, you need to answer “yes” to the application screening question #2.

Q. Isn't a conviction for driving under the influence (or driving while impaired) a traffic offense?

A. No. A DUI (or DWI) is a criminal offense. If you've been convicted of a DUI or DWI, you must answer yes to screening question #2 on your application.

Q. If my fingerprint report shows arrests, not convictions, why can't you just issue me my license?

A. Convictions are not always reported to the FBI. If your fingerprint report shows arrests, but no convictions, the Board will ask you to supply the court documents for each arrest. Once you've provided court documentation proving the arrests did not result in convictions, the Board will continue to process your application.

Q. The courts/judge/probation officer/attorney assured me my criminal record would be expunged/sealed. Why is it still showing up on my fingerprint report?

A. We often hear from individuals who don't report convictions on their applications because they were told their record would be “sealed.” If those convictions then show up on the fingerprint report, the person is charged with submitting a fraudulent application for answering no to screening question #2.

If you've been told your record has been expunged or sealed, you may want to have your fingerprints done for yourself first, to make sure your FBI report no longer shows the charge or conviction in question.

Q. What does the phrase “action pending” in screening question #1 mean? Does that mean action on my driver's license?

A. No, as in all application screening questions, the license referred to is your nursing license, not your driver's license. You have “action pending” if any board of nursing is investigating a complaint against you or if any nursing board has yet to take action on your case.

Q. Convictions “lapse” after seven years, right?

A. No. State law requires you to report, and the Board to consider, all convictions, no matter when they happened.

Q. My boss said I didn't need to report a fellow nurse who repeatedly administers the wrong medication to patients. Is she right?

A. No. As a licensed nurse, you are required by law to report any alleged violations of the Nurse Practice Act to the Board. That is not a decision your supervisor, human resource department, or others can make for you.

Q. What do I need to renew my license?

A. Submit a completed renewal application and appropriate fee. If your renewal form is marked CE AUDIT, then you must also submit your continuing education certificates. You must also have practiced nursing within the last five years.

Q. How many continuing education units must I earn to renew my license?

A. RNs and LPNs are required to complete 30 contact hours of continuing education during each renewal period. A contact hour is equal to 50 clock minutes. New graduates may use their nursing coursework in lieu of continuing education hours for their first renewal period.

Q. Can I use my PALS, ACLS, or BLS card as proof of continuing education?

A. No. You must show the certificate of continuing education hours you earned in the process of being certified for PALS, ACLS, or BLS. The card alone does not prove you earned continuing education credits.

Q. How often do I renew my license?

A. Every second birthday. *Please note:* your first renewal may not be a full two years, depending on when your birthday falls and when your license is issued.

Q. How do I get a temporary license? Is it a separate application?

A. No, it is not a separate application. To get a temporary license which is valid for four months, you must submit a completed application, a notarized copy of your active license in another state, and a minimum \$50 fee. Then, your name is checked through the National Disciplinary Data Bank. If your record is clean and you have answered no to all five application screening questions, the Board will issue you a temporary license within 10 to 14 days. The Board does not mail temporary licenses to out-of-state addresses—you must provide a Nevada address (employer, friend, etc.).

Q. If I need Nevada to verify my license to another state, what do I do?

A. Send the other state's form or letter to the Board's Las Vegas office with a check or money order for \$25. The Board will complete the verification within 10 to 14 days and mail it directly to the other state's nursing board.

Q. If I have not worked as a nurse for more than five years, how do I reactivate or maintain my license?

A. If you haven't worked as a nurse during the previous five years, you must take a refresher course. Call the Las Vegas office for more information.

Q. How long does it take to get my license renewed?

A. If you submit a completed, accurate application and have not answered "yes" to any of the five screening questions, your license will be renewed within 10 to 14 days.

Q. If I come to the office in person, will I be able to obtain my license more quickly?

A. No, the processing time is the same. However, you will save mailing time.

Q. How do I place my license on inactive status?

A. Just fill in the "yes" bubble on the statement "I wish to go to the inactive status" in Section 1 of your license renewal form. Then sign, date and return the form to the Las Vegas office. Since by law, you must advise the Board in writing to place your license on inactive status, this is a convenient way to do it. Or you may send a signed, dated letter to the Las Vegas office, including your full name, license number, and social security number. Either way, make sure you notify the Board before your license expires.

More questions?

Every day, Board staff members respond to all kinds of questions, on topics ranging from licensure to scope of practice to reporting requirements. We know that the laws and regulations governing the Nevada State Board of Nursing can sometimes be difficult to understand. That's why we welcome your calls. For licensure, certification or education questions, please call the Las Vegas office. The Reno office can help you with discipline, practice or administrative questions.

FOR MORE ANSWERS— GET INTO THE ACT

The Nevada Nurse Practice Act comes in a convenient carrying size. The 5-1/2" by 8-1/2" booklet is just \$5 if you buy it at the Reno or Las Vegas office, and \$8 by mail (make check or money order payable to the Nevada State Board of Nursing).

NOW YOU CAN CATCH OUR ACT ON THE WEB

The Board's web site now has a link to the state laws and regulations which make up the Nurse Practice Act.

BOARD MEETINGS

A seven-member board appointed by the governor, the Nevada State Board of Nursing consists of four registered nurses, one practical nurse, one certified nursing assistant and one consumer member. Its meetings are open to the public; agendas are posted on the Board's web site and at community sites.

Board Meeting Dates

March 23-24
Reno

May 17-19
Las Vegas

July 19-21 (Retreat)
Minden-Gardnerville

September 7-8
Las Vegas

November 16-17
Reno

Disciplinary Actions

Before disciplinary action is taken, the Board ensures the nurse or nursing assistant is given due process

If the Nevada State Board of Nursing receives information that a nurse or nursing assistant may have broken the law (the Nevada Nurse Practice Act), the Board has the authority to investigate.

It will investigate if the complaint is received in writing, names a nurse or nursing assistant who is licensed or certified in the state of Nevada, is signed by the person making the complaint, and alleges a violation of the Nurse Practice Act.

Before disciplinary action is taken, the Board ensures the nurse or nursing assistant is given due process, which requires giving adequate notice, a description of the charges, and a hearing or the opportunity for a hearing.

The individual also has the right to a formal hearing, the right to an attorney, the right to not participate in an informal hearing, the right to not sign anything, the right to see the complaint, and the right to appeal.

If the evidence doesn't support the allegations, the complaint may be dismissed or closed. If the evidence does support the allegations, the Board can take disciplinary action against the individual.

Disciplinary action can include denial, reprimand, fine, suspension, probation, or revocation of a license or certificate. The Board considers each case individually.

The disciplinary penalty is determined based on a number of factors which include the severity and recency of the offense, degree of deviation from standard practice, evidence of rehabilitation, current ability to practice safely, mitigating factors, and past disciplinary history.

The law gives the Board nondisciplinary options, including a very successful program which allows qualified, chemically dependent nurses and nursing assistants to re-enter the workforce in a paced sequence. It also monitors their recovery to ensure the safety of patients.

The following are disciplinary actions taken by the Board for the period of September 18, 1999 through October 29, 1999.

DeJoseph, Mary, RN21619
Agreement for Fine in the amount of \$220.00 for violation of NAC 632.890 (36) practicing nursing without a license.

Duran, Lisa, CNA11489
Found guilty of one count of NRS 632.320 (7) unprofessional conduct and NAC 632.890 (22) patient abandonment. Respondent's certificate was revoked. Respondent may not apply for reinstatement for two years.

Fant, Sammie, LPN10758
Voluntary Surrender of Certificate in Lieu of Other Disciplinary Action for violation of NAC 632.890 (9) impaired practice.

Gamio, Luz, RN31195
Agreement for Fine in the amount of \$100.00 for violation of NAC 632.890 (36) practicing without a license.

Harrison, Robin, RN19945
Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation of NAC 632.890 (10) positive drug screen while practicing nursing.

Hart, Danette, RN29674
Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation of NRS 632.320 (7) unprofessional conduct.

Kennedy, Shirley, RN11757
Voluntary Surrender Of License In Lieu Of Other Disciplinary Action for violation of NRS 632.320 (2) convictions.

Petersen, Leslie, RN Applicant
Application for licensure denied for violation of NRS 632.320 (1) fraudulent application.

ABBREVIATIONS

NRS

Nevada Revised Statutes

NAC

Nevada Administrative Code

Roberts, Jennifer, RN19361
Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation of NRS 632.320 (11) false information to a pharmacist and NAC 632.890 (9) impaired nursing practice.

Smith, Janet, LPN3197
Found guilty on the basis of the contents in the Stipulation of Facts that has been received into evidence for violation of NAC 632.890 (36) practicing nursing without a license. Respondent is publicly reprimanded, fined in the amount of \$5,000.00, and is required to take a non-home study Legal Ethics course to be completed within one year.

The following are disciplinary actions taken by the Board for the period of October 30, 1999 through November 19, 1999.

Anderson, Linda, RN28558
Found guilty for violation of NRS 632.320 (7) unprofessional conduct and NAC 632.890 (18) diversion. The Board ordered disciplinary probation for three years.

Beland, Lori, RN30382
Agreement for Fine for violation of NAC 632.890 (36) practicing without a license.

Blackburn, Linda, CNA9131
Found guilty of violation of NRS 632.320 (14) violation of a Board order based on the contents in the Stipulation of Facts received into evidence. Certificate to be suspended until respondent meets the requirements of her previous Board order.

Cahee, Jacqueline, CNA6699
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (2) practicing beyond scope.

Carter, Irene, RN21124
Agreement for Reprimand and Fine in the amount of \$200 for violation of NAC 632.890 (36) practicing without a license.

Davis, Sheila, LPN Applicant
Application for licensure denied
based on violation of NRS
632.320 (2) convictions.

Hughes, Mary, CNA Applicant
Application for certification
denied based on violation of
NRS 632.2852 (2d) require-
ments for certification.

Kirk, Stacy, LPN9748
Voluntary Surrender in Lieu of
Other Disciplinary Action for
violation of NRS 632.320 (5)
uses any controlled substance
to the extent that it impairs his
ability to conduct the practice
authorized by his license NAC
632.890 (17) borrowing
money from a family member of
a patient.

Lake, Vilma, CNA Applicant
Application for certification
denied based on violation of
NRS 632.320 (2) convictions
Lowe, Dawn, RN25486
Agreement for Reprimand for
violation of NRS 632.320 (1)
fraudulent application.

Makhijani, Rosario. CNA Appli-
cant

Application for certification
denied based on violation of
NRS 632.320 (1) fraudulent
application, (2) convictions,
and (12) disciplinary action in
another state.

Ngoma, Angela, RN Applicant
Application for licensure denied
based on violation of NRS
632.320 (1) fraudulent appli-
cation, and (12) disciplinary
action in another state.

Pendergest, Allene, LPN10264
Agreement for Reprimand and
Classes for violation of NAC
632.890 (2) practicing be-
yond scope (28) failing to take
actions to protect a patient.

Perez, Lisa, CNA5026

Agreement for Reprimand for
violation of NRS 632.320 (1)
fraudulent application.

Rynearson, Andrew, LPN9225
Found guilty of violation of
NRS 632.320 (1) fraudulent
application and (12) discipli-
nary action in another state.
Respondent's license was
revoked and may not apply for
reinstatement for five years.

Questions? Call
Debra Scott, Associ-
ate Executive
Director for Nursing
Practice, in Reno.

**For information
about filing a
complaint, call the
Reno office or go to
the consumer section
of the Board's web
site.**

It's Confidential

If the Board of Nursing
is conducting an inves-
tigation, either as a re-
sult of a complaint or
the information on your
application, the fact
that the investigation is
taking place is confiden-
tial. We cannot release
any information to your
employer, family mem-
bers or friends. If you
wish to know the status
of the investigation,
please call us yourself.

Questions about the program?

Call or write Debra Scott, Associate
Executive Director for Nursing Practice,
in the Reno office.

Opening for facilitator

The Alternative Program needs another
southern Nevada support group facilitator.
If you're interested and you're a CADAC-
certified nurse or other licensed mental health
professional, please call Debra Scott.

Free Language Bank Services

January 2000 newsletter article
cited incorrect telephone number

The language bank article in the January 2000
issue contained the wrong telephone number.
Please note the correct number is 775-784-
7515. We apologize for any inconvenience this
may have caused.

If language barriers are preventing you
from understanding your patient, there's a
place you can call for help.

The Northern Nevada Language Bank
provides free interpreter and translation ser-
vices for Nevada residents and foreign visi-
tors unable to communicate in English during
situations affecting their safety and well being.

Just dial 775-784-7515 and explain your
language problem. An answering service op-
erator will connect you with a volunteer who
speaks the necessary language. Due to funding
limitations, the service is currently only avail-
able during regular business hours.

An Alternative To Addiction

The Alternative Program for
Chemically Dependent Nurses—
we help heal the healers

If you or someone you know has an addic-
tion, the Nevada State Board of Nursing can
help. It runs a successful
program for nurses and
nursing assistants whose
practice may be impaired
due to chemical depen-
dency. The goal of the
Alternative Program for
Chemically Dependent
Nurses is to protect the
public by identifying im-
paired individuals, then

providing intervention and requiring treatment.
It helps heal the healers, giving them the oppor-
tunity to take personal responsibility for recov-
ery while being closely monitored through a
nondisciplinary agreement and probation.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Nevada State Board
of Nursing is advised by
and appoints members to
seven standing advisory
committees. Committee
meetings are open to the
public; agendas are
posted on the Board's
web site and at commu-
nity sites. If you are
interested in applying for
appointment to fill an
upcoming opening,
please visit the Board's
web site or call the Reno
office for an application.

MEETINGS AND OPENINGS

The openings (listed in
parentheses) will occur
in the next six months.

**Advanced Practice
Advisory Committee (one)**
May 15, 2000

CNA Advisory Committee
(two—one long-term care
representative, one acute
care RN)
June 7, 2000

**Disability Advisory
Committee (none)**
April 28, 2000

**Nursing Competency
Advisory Committee (one)**
May 31, 2000

**Nursing Practice
Advisory Committee (five)**
May 10, 2000

Contact

**Nevada State
Board of Nursing**

**ADMINISTRATION,
DISCIPLINE AND
INVESTIGATION**

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Reno, NV 89502

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**LICENSURE, CERTIFICA-
TION, RENEWAL AND
CONTINUING EDUCATION**

P.O. Box 46886 (89114)

**4330 S. Valley View
Suite 106**

Las Vegas, NV 89103

phone - 702-486-5800

fax - 702-486-5803

email - nsbnlv@

govmail.state.nv.us

WORLD WIDE WEB

nursingboard.state.nv.us

Learn Nurse Practice Act for CEs

National Council course is on the web

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing, in cooperation with the Nevada State Board of Nursing, developed an on-line course and examination on the Nevada Nurse Practice Act.

The web-based course can be accessed at <http://www.nursecourse.com>. It has been approved for two contact hours of continuing education credit for nurses practicing in Nevada.

The course text is followed by 22 multiple-choice questions that will test comprehension of the course material. After you've studied the text and completed the questions, you submit your answers for scoring.

You'll then be asked to pay the \$10 scoring and processing fee using your Visa, MasterCard, or American Express card. (Your credit card information will be transferred using secure Internet transmission technology.) Scoring results will then be returned to you on screen.

Surf on over to the Board's web site

Do you want to know about Board meetings, agendas, minutes, discipline actions, laws and regulations, education, continuing education, practice information, and advisory committees? Just visit the Board's web site at nursingboard.state.nv.us.

TOLL-FREE CONSUMER HOT LINE 800-746-3980

or in the Reno calling area, 688-2620

The Nevada State Board of Nursing has a hot line to help consumers who have questions or concerns about the nursing care they or their loved ones are receiving.

Please encourage your friends, families and patients to call the hot line if they have concerns about nursing care. And remember, if you or anyone else wishes to file a complaint against a nursing assistant or nurse, it must be done in writing. Complaint forms can be requested by calling the hot line.

Going Inactive?

**Take advantage of an easy, free way to
place yourself on inactive status**

The renewal form includes a statement in Section I, "I wish to go to the inactive status." If you want to place your license on inactive status, just fill in the "yes" bubble, sign and date the renewal form, and return it to the Las Vegas office. Since by law, you must advise the Board in writing when you place your license on inactive status, this gives you a convenient way to do it. If you have any questions regarding this free service, please call the Las Vegas office.

Nursing Board of NEVADA NEWSLETTER

**Nevada State Board
of Nursing
P.O. Box 46886
Las Vegas, NV 89114**

**BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
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PERMIT NO. 391**